

Applicant : Richard Rodriguez-Val et al.  
Serial No. : 09/983,042  
Filed : October 22, 2001  
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Attorney's Docket No. 06975-092001

### REMARKS

Claims 1-9, 13-22, 40-48, 52-61, and 79-84 remain in this case. Claim 13 has been amended to change its dependency from canceled claim 11 to allowed claim 1. Claim 52 has been amended to change its dependency from canceled claim 50 to allowed claim 40. These changes are not believed to introduce a new matter, and entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Applicant and applicant's representative wish to thank Primary Patent Examiner Larry Donaghue for the assistance extended during the telephone interview held on December 20, 2005, the substance of which is incorporated in this letter.

As discussed over the phone, claims 10 and 11, which are indicated as allowable in the notice of allowability are not pending in the present application. Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating a supplemental notice of allowability will be issued to correct this oversight. In addition, claims 13 and 52 are amended to depend from claims 1 and 40, respectively. Notably, claim 1 includes features of canceled claim 11 from which claim 13 depended before this amendment. Claim 40 includes features of canceled claim 50 from which claim 52 depended before this amendment.

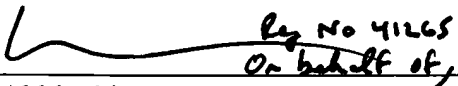
No fee is believed due. However, please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

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Respectfully submitted,

Date: 12/22/2005

  
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